

PRESBYTERY
68 Crooms Hill,
Greenwich,
London,
SE10 8HG
0208 858 0662

PARISH PRIEST
Rev. Fr Thomas Lynch
frtomlynch85@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY
Leigh Ott
greenwichwest@rcaos.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING
Vacant Post
Greenwichsg4@safeguardrcaos.
org.uk

PARISH WEBSITE
Ourladyestarofteseagreenwich
.church

DOMINICAN CONVENT
38 Hyde Vale
SE10 8QH
Tel: 020 8692 3382

SVP CONFERENCE
svpgreenwich@gmail.com

**ST. URSULA'S GIRLS
CONVENT SCHOOL**
Head Mr O'Shaughnessy
70 Crooms Hill
SE10 8HN
Tel: 020 8858 4613

**ST. JOSEPH'S RC
PRIMARY SCHOOL**
Head Ms. Long
Commerell Street
SE10 9AN
Tel. 02088584182

**LAST WEEK
CA.SH COLLECTION**
GIFT AID: £120.00
LOOSE: 354.75
TERMINAL COLLECTION
£524.00
STANDING ORDERS FOR AUGUST
£3842.00
ATTENDANCE
313



OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

CATHOLIC CHURCH • GREENWICH

SEPTEMBER – DEDICATED TO THE SORROWFUL HEART OF MARY

✠ **HOLY MASS FOR THE 24TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**
MASS PRAYERS AND READINGS pg. 128
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER pg. 18

SATURDAY 12th September

6.00pm Vigil Mass Deceased Members of the Halloran Family

SUNDAY 13th September **24th SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME**

9.00am Sung Mass
11.00am Sung mass
Valdemars Felcis
People of the Parish

MONDAY 14th September **EXALTATION of the HOLY CROSS**

11.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12.30pm Holy Mass
John Whelan RIP

TUESDAY 15th September **OUR LADY of SORROWS**

6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm Holy Mass
Beatrice Parker RIP

WEDNESDAY 16th September **SAINTs CORNELIUS and CYPRIAN**

11:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12.30pm Holy Mass
Katherine Bingley RIP

THURSDAY 17th September **SAINT ROBERT BELLARMINE**

No public Mass today

FRIDAY 18th September **SAINT EDITH of KEMSING**

10:00am Holy Mass at the Elizabeth College Chapel
11:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12.30pm Holy Mass
Katherine Bingley RIP

SATURDAY 19th September **SAINT THEODORE of CANTERBURY**

6.00pm Vigil Mass Deceased of the Hynes Family

SUNDAY 20th September **25th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

9.00am Sung Mass
11.00am Sung Mass
Mary Amelia Whelan RIP
People of the Parish

Confessions

Saturdays at 10.00am – 10.30am and 5pm - 5.30pm. After
weekday Mass – please sit by the confessional.

Adoration

One hour before every weekday mass.

Spiritual Thought

In the Gospel today we are presented with a largely forgotten institution – the debtors' prison. In ancient times, if you were in debt you could be thrown into the debtors' prison – you couldn't work in there, so you relied upon your family both providing food for you, and working to pay off your debt. Your sentence was, then, entirely dependant on the kindness of others. This is why "visiting those imprisoned" was a corporal work of mercy, and "releasing prisoners" a sign of the Messianic times.

With this type of prison in mind, what spiritual reality are you remind of? Purgatory. The debtors' prison, mentioned a few times in the Gospels is seen by many of the fathers of the church as a beginning teaching on purgatory. Purgatory is a concept much misunderstood – many see it as a final place, or a convenient Catholic invention. Actually purgatory is an aspect of the mercy of God.

At the end of life we are judged by the loving God. We hope to be judged worthy of heaven, but heaven, as the home of God is for the holy and the perfect. Many of us fall short of the glory of heaven. But rather than be condemned to the other place, God allows us to be purified after death – to be purged "that, should any stain of sin have clung to him (her) or any human fault have affected him (her), it may, by your loving gift, be forgiven and wiped away" as we pray in the funeral rite.

Now, we cannot do anything for ourselves after death, the time of merit and repentance is over. In our earthly life we can repent, change, merit, grow in holiness, but after death we cannot, as we die so we remain.

So, the church, through her prayers and actions, can aid those in purgatory so they can be purified quickly and released into heaven.

This is why the church lays such emphasis, firstly on repenting and growing in holiness during life, and having a "well provided" death with the sacraments. But also why the church places such emphasis on praying for the dead, offering Masses, making penances, doing good works for the Holy Souls. So that we, their spiritual family, may aid them to pay off any debt to the glory of God in purgatory. We can aid them into heaven – what a gift we can give! And what an awesome privilege.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Domenico and Barbara who were married in the church on Saturday. May God bless them in their married life.

Diocese Announcement

The Archdiocese of Southwark will be holding their annual service for those that have been harmed by abuse on the 30th September 2026, at 6.30pm at St George's Cathedral. The service will be led by Archbishop John Wilson and is an opportunity for the archdiocese community to express their solidarity and

compassion to those that have been hurt by abuse and our commitment to building safe environments for all. Please attend if you are able.

Second Collection

This weekend we have a second collection for the Catholic Education Service. This aids the diocese to run our diocesan Catholic schools. There are over 170 Catholic schools, colleges and academies in the Archdiocese, including St. Ursula's and St. Joseph's. Thank you for your generosity.

Volunteer Sought

The parish is looking for someone to help update the diocesan accounting system for us. If any accountant (retired or working) could spare a day a month to upload the data I would be very grateful to hear from you.

SVP Conference Update

Thank you everyone who supported Our St Vincent de Paul (SVP) Conference Bake Sale a couple of weeks ago - the Conference raised £381!

We are holding a second Bake Sale after the 9:00 am and 11:00 am Masses on Sunday, 13 September. If you would like to help, or find out more about joining the SVP, please contact us

at svpgreenwich@gmail.com or speak to Father Tom, who can refer you to us.

SVP is looking for donations of dining chairs, table, or an armchair for one of the beneficiaries. If you have any of these items you would like to donate, please email us, or speak to Father Tom.

Thank you for your continued prayers, support, and generosity.

Greenwich Young Catholic Adults

Greenwich Young Catholic Adults meets this Tuesday. We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of the month after the evening Mass. The group is open to all Catholics aged 18-35. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 6pm (with opportunity for confession), Holy Mass at 7pm and this Tuesday we have a talk from Sr. Kumari FMM.

"Hearts in Search of God"

aims to revive the art of pilgrimage walking and in this special year of the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi, we invite you to take part in a special walking pilgrimage from Our Ladye Star of the Sea Greenwich on **Friday 9th October starting at 9.30am** and walking to St George's Cathedral Southwark. To sign up and register for more information, please go to the website pilgrimways.org.uk click on "Let us walk." Registration closes on 15th Sept.

Assisted Dying

Let us thank God that this bill hasn't passed the House of Commons.